ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

Public Health and Sanitary Condition

OF THE

SELBY URBAN DISTRICT

FOR

The Year 1906.

BY

BERNARD STEDMAN,

M.D. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Camb.),

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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SELBY

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

Public Health and Sanitary Condition

FOR THE YEAR

1906.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report, as Medical Officer of Health, for the year 1906.

The estimated population of the Selby Urban District is 9,000, and the number of inhabited houses 1,950. Twenty-one new houses have been occupied during the year.

252 births have been registered, the birth-rate being 28 per thousand. This is higher than the last two years, but about 1 below the average for ten years. The birth-rate for England and Wales in 1906 was 27.

126 deaths occurred during the year, giving a rate of 14 per thousand. This, with one exception, is the lowest for ten years, being 2·6 below the average rate for this district, and 1·4 below the death-rate for the whole country in 1906.

The infantile mortality (rate per 1000 births) is somewhat high, being 155, and is largely due to deaths from diarrhœa during the summer.

From Table V. it will be seen that 12 illegitimate births were registered, and 7 illegitimate children died under 1 year of age.

23 deaths occurred from zymotic diseases, 14 being from diarrhœa, and 6 from measles, the latter being prevalent duriug October and November.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

33 cases have been notified, 3 erysipelas, 4 scarlet fever, 5 typhoid, 15 diphtheria, and 6 phthisis. (Medical practitioners have been asked to notify this last disease.)

The scarlet fever were all isolated cases, and only had it in a mild form ; in marked contrast to last year, when 100 cases were notified, 5 of which proved fatal.

One of the patients was removed to hospital, the others having sufficient accommodation at home.

With regard to the typhoid patients, two were imported cases. The others were isolated cases, the source of which could not be traced.

DIPHTHERIA.

A bacteriological examination was made by the County Council in all except two cases, and this has proved of great service, as several of the children did not exhibit the ordinary signs of diphtheria, but only those of simple ulcerated throat. But for the help of the bacteriologist no doubt many of these would not have been notified, nor would they have been isolated sufficiently long to prevent their spreading the disease.

Nine of the patients (all children) were treated in hospital, and here also I have fouud the assistance of the bacteriological examinations invaluable. No patient was discharged until two successive examinations from the throat shewed absence of diphtheria bacilli. This was long after all outward signs of the disease had disappeared. One patient (a slight case) was in hospital more than two months before the examinations gave a negative result.

The cases generally were mild, but one patient died in the hospital.

Antitoxin is provided by the Council and has, I believe, been used in all the cases.

MEASLES.

An epidemic of measles occurred at the end of September. I recommended closure of the Infants' Department of the Wesleyan School on October 1st for three weeks. On October 27th I had to recommend closure of the Infants' Department of both the Abbey and Wesleyan Schools for three weeks, and on November 9th of the Roman Catholic Infants for the same period. Six children died during the epidemic, 5 being under 3 years of age.

PHTHISIS OR CONSUMPTION.

9 deaths from this disease have been recorded. In April the medical practitioners were asked to notify cases coming under their observation, and have done so in 6 instances.

Patients suffering from the disease in an early stage are now admitted into the Isolation Hospital for a period not exceeding 8 weeks without the consent of the Committee.

By this means they not only gain the advantage of sanatorium treatment, but are taught to live in such a manner as to reduce to a minimum the danger of infection to those around them. All spitting, except in spitoons or handkerchiefs, is strictly forbidden in hospital.

Five patients have already been admitted. One was an advanced case, but owing to there being 9 children in the house an exception was made in this case. The other four shewed marked improvement from the treatment, which consists simply of (1) abundance of fresh air, (2) plenty of good plain food, and (3) rest. All of these could be obtained in an ordinary sized dwellinghouse if a person had the necessary means.

Unfortunately, many of these patients are apt to fall back after a time at home. It is, however, hoped, as stated above, that other inmates of the house will have greater security from infection, and thus justify the hospital expenditure.

I should add that these patients are admitted to hospital free of charge.

All cases of consumption are provided with spitoons and instructions for dealing with the sputum, and for their mode of living generally.

This seems to be the best method of treating persons with the disease in its early stage. Provision should also be made for advanced cases. These are not suitable for ordinary sanatorium treatment, and in many instances are a source of danger if left at home. I think this class could best be dealt with by the poor law authorities in connection with workhouse hospitals.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The Selby Urban and Rural Joint Isolation Hospital has done good service in preventing the spread of infectious disease.

Early in the year arrangements were made for admission of cases from the Riccall Rural District.

The total number of patients admitted has been 40, 14 being from Selby Urban, 13 from Selby Rural, and 13 from Riccall Rural.

In March the Committee decided to make provision for phthisical cases.

Two railway coaches were purchased, and fixed end to end near the administrative block. The partitions were removed, ventilators fixed in the roof, and the whole converted into a sitting-room and two bedrooms for the reception of 4 patients.

Unfortunately, they were not ready for use until the middle of July. Fences have been fixed to prevent the phthisical patients coming in contact with those suffering from other infectious diseases. Six cases have up to the present been admitted, 5 being from Selby and 1 from Riccall.

The total cost of the sheds, including furnishing, has been approximately sixty pounds, and the estimated cost per week for each patient is about twelve shillings.

SANITATION.

The new waterworks at Brayton are now approaching completion, and should be ready for use early next summer.

With double the present pressure, and a storage reservoir holding four days' supply, the town will be greatly benefitted. More water will be available for sewer flushing during the hot weather.

A small gas engine is to be fixed at the present water works to pump sewage when the river is in flood. This will be more economical than using the present water works engine after the new works at Brayton are completed.

The scavenging of the town is well carried out by the Council's workmen.

Each year a substantial diminution in the number of privies and water closets flushed directly from the main is observed.

In accordance with the Selby Urban Council Act all new houses must now be provided with water closets.

The slaughter houses are in very fair condition, and, with one exception, the owners have carried out the suggestions made by this Council in 1904 for their improvement.

The sixteen cowsheds have all been inspected. Each contains over six hundred cubic feet of space per cow. They are kept in a clean and wholesome condition. Early in the year the Council requested the various cow-keepers to adopt means of cooling their milk. I have not seen any attempt made in this direction.

There are at present 61 workshops and workplaces on the register. They consist chiefly of tailoring or dressmaking establishments and bakehouses.

Three notices were served for limewashing.

The sanitary conveniences are sufficient and satisfactory.

Section 22 of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act is in force in the district.

Lists of outworkers were received. No case of infectious disease occurred in their houses during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

BERNARD STEDMAN, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT OF NUISANCES ABATED AND OTHER SANITARY WORK

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1906.

Inspections made	1897
Verbal and written uotices from Inspector (not water notices) ...	210
Notices from Council	10
Do. do. for contravention of Bye-Laws	3
Notices for waste of water	77
Plans passed for dwelling houses...	15
Do. other buildings	10
Plans disapproved for buildings	3
Number of houses connected with sewers	21
Number of new houses occupied during the year	21
Number of new houses connected with town water supply ...	21
Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces registered	70
Do. do. do. inspcted	70
Notices to get Workshops limewashed, &c.	3
Dairies and Cowsheds on the register and inspected	16
Dangerous Buildings (notices sent)	8
Canal Boats inspected	45
Notices under Canal Boats' Act	4
Common Lodging Houses on the register and inspected ...	5
Slaughter Houses registered	14
Do. repaired	1
Number of loads of refuse removed	1603
Ashpits, Privies, &c., cleansed (including 146 box closets weekly)	12558
Dust-bins emptied	29503
Dust-bins emptied, number of loads of refuse	895
Rooms disinfected and papered by Council	24
Notices to abate smoke nuisances	3
Overcrowding notices sent	2
New Spouts for houses	6
W.C.'s provided with flushing cisterns (new houses)	20
Do. do. do. (old houses)	31
W.C.'s cleansed and repaired	38
Defective Gullies repaired...	8
Houses condemned as unfit for human habitation	1
Galvanized boxes substituted for wooden boxes in box closets ...	37
Offensive accumulations removed	27

Defective privies and ashpits rebuilt	2
New W.C.'s built for old property	28
Yards repaired and paved...	3
Notices to get yards cleaned	10
Notices to remove wood erection from back yards	2
Old and defective ashpits removed	2
Defective drains cleansed and relaid	25
Sinks disconnected (old)	2
Disconnecting chambers for drains of old property	6
Back roads repaired	3
Notices sent to improve cowsheds	6
Notices to get cowsheds cleansed and limewashed	4
Pigs removed from vicinity of buildings	3
Smoke nuisances	2
Privies converted into box closets	19
Bad box closets repaired	37
Wells condemned	2

NOTES.

The number of closets of various kinds in Selby are as follows, viz. :

Cistern W.C.'s	1038
Wash out (flushed from main) ...	224
Privies	177
Box closets	146
Trough closets	7

BRUCE McGREGOR GRAY,

A.M.I.C.E., M.R. San. I.,

Surveyor and Inspector.

I give below Particulars of Rainfall at Waterworks, Selby, during the Years 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906.

	Total for Month. (inches.)				*Amount of Rainfall on wettest day during Month.* (inches.)				*Date of wettest day during Month.*			
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
January ...	1·12	1·38	·44	2·96	·32	·38	·17	·56	5th	7th	17th	5th
February ...	1·02	2·67	·64	1·75	·27	1·07	·16	·53	21st	3rd	28th	27th
March ...	2·09	1·61	1·80	·96	·70	·46	·38	·17	17th	7th	28th	24th
April	1·22	1·61	2·19	·64	·23	·36	·33	·13	27th	14th	14th	25th
May	3·18	2·41	·52	1·48	·77	·56	·35	·39	9th	27th	1st	19th
June	1·54	·59	2·83	·53	·79	·29	·76	·12	13th	26th	17th	1st
July	2·47	1·49	1·26	·71	·67	·73	·49	·18	11th	23rd	22nd	28th
August ...	2·08	3·00	3·30	1·93	·48	·67	·60	·45	20th	22nd	25th	24th
September ...	3·11	1·06	1·64	·45	1·11	·53	·47	·19	10th	30th	1st	13th
October ...	6·89	·48	1·56	4·87	1·27	·16	·31	·74	8th	9th	14th	18th
November ...	·89	1·56	2·60	2·41	·31	·49	·54	·35	2nd	7th	10th	3rd
December ...	1·01	1·44	·26	2·00	·32	·38	·16	·45	8th	9th	28th	25th
Total during Years	26·62	19·30	19·04	20·63 inches.								

BRUCE McGREGOR GRAY,
Waterworks Engineer.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1906 and Previous Years. Name of District, SELBY URBAN.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each year.	Births.		Total Deaths registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Net Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
				Under 1 year of age.		At all Ages.						
		Number.	Rate *	Number.	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Number.	Rate *				Number.	Rates *
1896	6250	188	29·0	34	180	117	18·4	11	3	..	114	18·0
1897	6300	188	30·0	26	138	113	17·9	7	4	..	109	17·3
1898	6500	192	29·3	27	159	125	18·7	10	5	2	122	18·3
1899	7500	228	30·4	53	232	155	20·6	16	11	..	144	19·2
1900	8000	242	30·2	26	107	161	20·0	17	9	1	153	19·1
1901	7786	224	28.7	37	165	125	16·0	10	6	1	120	15·4
1902	8200	237	28·9	29	122	119	14·5	11	7	1	113	13·8
1903	8400	254	30·2	32	126	125	14·8	20	5	1	121	14·4
1904	8600	227	26·4	41	180	139	16·1	18	11	1	129	15·0
1905	8800	236	26·8	36	152	156	18·8	18	9	..	147	16·7
Averages for years 1896-1905	7634	221	28·9	34	154	133	17·4	14	7	1	127	16·6
1906	9000	252	28·0	39	155	134	14·9	19	11	3	126	14·0

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water). } 3,713.

Total population at all ages.....7786
Number of inhabited houses .....1686 } At Census of 1901.
Average number of persons per house .. 4·6

TABLE II.

There are no recognised divisions in the Council's area, therefore Table II. is not given.

TABLE III.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1906.

SELBY URBAN DISTRICT.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole District.							No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each Locality.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards	
Small-pox								
Cholera								
Diphtheria	15	..	5	10	..	..	..	9
Membranous Croup								
Erysipelas	3	..	..	..	..	3	..	
Scarlet Fever ..	4	1	..	3	..	..	..	1
Typhus Fever ..								
Enteric Fever ..	4	..	1	..	2	1	..	..
Relapsing Fever ..								
Continued Fever ..								
Puerperal Fever ..								
Plague								
Phthisis	6	..	..	..	3	3	..	5
Total	32	1	6	13	5	7	..	15

Isolation Hospital at Selby (Joint Isolation Hospital for Selby Urban and Rural Districts).

TABLE IV.

Cause of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1906.

Name of District, SELBY URBAN.

Causes of Death.	Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Total Deaths whether of Residents or non "Residents" in Public Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	6	1	4	1	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping-cough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
Croup	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fever — Typhus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fever — Enteric	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	3
Fever — Other continued	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Epidemic Influenza ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cholera	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhœa	14	14	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteritis	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Septic Diseases ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	9	..	..	..	1	8	..	3
Other Tubercular Diseases ..	4	2	1	1	..	..	..	..
Cancer, Malignant Disease ..	8	..	..	..	..	3	5	2
Bronchitis	6	..	..	..	..	1	5	..
Pneumonia	7	2	3	..	1	1	..	1
Pleurisy	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
Alcoholism Cirrhosis of Liver ..	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
Venereal Diseases ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Premature Birth ..	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	1
Diseases and Accidents Parturition	3	1	..	..	..	2	..	..
Heart Diseases	10	..	..	..	..	6	4	1
Accidents	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	..
Suicides	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
All other causes ..	43	15	1	1	1	4	21	6
All causes	126	39	11	5	6	29	36	19

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables I., III., and IV., attention has been given to the notes on the Tables.

BERNARD STEDMAN, Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE V.

SELBY URBAN DISTRICT.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1906.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes.	Certified	8	..	1	..	9	1	7	3	1	6	1	4	2	2	2	1	39
	Uncertified	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
i. Common Infectious Diseases.	Small-pox	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
	Chicken-pox	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
	Measles	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
	Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
	Diphtheria: Croup	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
ii. Diarrhœal Diseases.	Diarrhœa, all forms	1	..	..	..	1	..	5	2	..	2	..	2	..	1	..	..	13
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
iii. Wasting Diseases.	Premature Birth	2	..	1	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
	Congenital Defects	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	Injury at Birth	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	Want of Breast-milk Starvation	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	2	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	1	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	9
iv. Tuberculous Diseases.	Tuberculous Meningitis	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	2
v. Other Causes.	Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Syphilis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Rickets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Meningitis (*not Tuberculous*)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Convulsions	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	5
	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Laryngitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2
	Suffocation, overlying	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	Other causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
		8	..	1	..	9	1	7	3	1	6	1	4	2	2	2	1	39

District (or Sub-Division) of Selby Union. Population (estimated to middle of 1906), 9,000.

Births in the year { legitimate, 240. illegitimate, 12.

Deaths in the year of { legitimate infants, 32. illegitimate infants, 7.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 126.